

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6730

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, UG, KE, SU

SUBJECT: ELLERKMANN REPORT CONCERNING UGANDAN
CLAIMS TO KENYAN AND SUDANESE TERRITORY

THE FOLLOWING IS A MESSAGE FROM FRG EMBASSY KAMPALA
WHICH WAS PASSED TO US BY THE FONOFF FOR TRANSMISSION
TO THE DEPARTMENT:

BEGIN TEXT:

SUBJECT: CESSION OF UGANDAN TERRITORIES TO KENYA AND
SUDAN

1. A KENYAN PROTEST TO AMIN'S CLAIMS ON KENYAN
TERRITORY, THE CONTENT OF WHICH WAS NOT MADE KNOWN HERE,
LED TO NEW STATEMENTS ON THE PART OF PRESIDENT AMIN. WE
HAVE LEARNED THROUGH THE PRESS AND TELEVISION THAT AMIN
SAID, IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS FOREIGN MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF INFORMATION, THAT UGANDA HAD RAISED NO
TERRITORIAL CLAIMS AGAINST KENYA. HE HAD MERELY WANTED
THE UGANDAN POPULATION IN THE CEDED TERRITORIES TO BE
FREE "TO ENJOY THE FRUITS OF THEIR LAND WHICH WAS GIVEN
TO THEM BY GOD."

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AMIN WENT ON TO STATE THAT THE PARTS OF UGANDA CEDED TO

KENYA WERE RICH ENOUGH TO SUPPORT THE POPULATION LIVING THERE IF THEY BECAME INDEPENDENT. HIS STATEMENTS ON TERRITORIAL CESSIONS HAD NOT BEEN DIRECTED AGAINST KENYATTA OR HIS GOVERNMENT, AND HE FAILED TO UNDERSTAND THE KENYAN PROTEST. HE PROPOSED TO APPROACH QUEEN ELIZABETH AND DEMAND INFORMATION AS TO WHAT DEVELOPMENTS HAD LED TO THE CESSION TO KENYA OF FORMERLY UGANDAN TERRITORY.

AMIN FELT THAT THE CESSION OF TURKANA AND KARASUKA, WHICH HAD ONLY RECENTLY BEEN ADDED TO KENYA, WAS ESPECIALLY AGGRAVATING. THERE WAS NO PROOF THAT THESE TERRITORIES BELONGED TO KENYA AT ALL. HE WOULD EXAMINE THE QUESTION WHETHER THE BRITISH WERE LIABLE TO PAY UGANDA COMPENSATION FOR LOST TERRITORIES. HE PROPOSED TO SET UP AN AIR FORCE BASE ON THE BORDER WITH KENYA; RADAR FACILITIES WERE ALREADY AVAILABLE.

AS FAR AS THE SOUTHERN SUDAN IS CONCERNED, AMIN REPEATED HIS EARLIER STATEMENT THAT ITS POPULATION WAS UGANDAN (THOUGH HE REFRAINED FROM AGAIN INSISTING THAT THIS TERRITORY BE GRANTED INDEPENDENCE). THE KENYAN ASSERTION THAT HE HAD RAISED CLAIMS TO TANGA WAS INCORRECT.

COMMENT: THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE SUBJECT OF BORDER CHANGES WAS BROUGHT UP TO THE PRESIDENT BY THE ENGLISH PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY OF MAKERERE UNIVERSITY, LANGLANDS, HAS PROVEN CORRECT. LANGLANDS, WHO HAD BEEN TERMINATED WITHOUT A PENSION AFTER 22 YEARS OF TEACHING AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY, HAD SUCCEEDED IN GAINING AMIN'S ATTENTION. THE ORIGINAL MOTIVE FOR THE CAMPAIGN CONCERNING COLONIAL BORDER CHANGES PROBABLY WAS THE DESIRE TO CONFUSE KENYA AND REGISTER TERRITORIAL CLAIMS FOR A LATER DATE. AMIN THEN PROBABLY BELIEVED THAT THIS WOULD ENABLE HIM TO RAISE COMPENSATION CLAIMS AGAINST GREAT BRITAIN. THIS SURMISE IS CONFIRMED BY THE FOLLOWING COMMENT WHICH THE "VOICE OF UGANDA" BROADCAST ON FEBRUARY 18: "WE MAY RECOMMEND THAT HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT COMPENSATE IN HARD CASH FOR THE ACREAGE IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHUCKED OUT OF UGANDA. THIS WOULD NO DOUBT BE A FAIR SETTLEMENT."

AMIN POSSIBLY INTENDS TO SPECIFY UGANDA'S COMPENSATION CLAIMS AGAINST THE BRITISH BORDER CHANGES OF COLONIAL TIMES. END TEXT.
HILLENBRAND

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